

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 13-26 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1 and 9 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus, comprising:
input means for inputting first image data and icon image data;
determining means for determining a display position of the icon image; and
display control means for superimposing one of the first image and the icon image on the other and displaying the first and icon images on a monitor such that the icon image is positioned in the display position determined by the determining means,
wherein the determining means determines successively a plurality of display positions different from each other as display positions of the icon image, and wherein the plurality of display positions are within a range of a ~~predetermined number of~~ 1 to 5 pixels from a predetermined position.
2. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
instruction means for instructing display of the icon image on the monitor,

wherein the determining means determines a display position of the icon image according to an instruction by the instruction means.

Claims 3. (Cancelled).

4. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

storage means for calculating and storing an accumulated display time in respective display positions determined by the determining means,

wherein the determining means determines that a position where the accumulated display time is minimum among the respective display positions is a display position of the icon image.

5. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

image generation means for generating an object image,

wherein the display control means controls display such that the object image generated by the image generation means is superimposed on the first image as the icon image and displayed.

Claims 6. (Cancelled).

7. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

image size conversion means for expanding or reducing the icon image,

wherein the display control means controls display such that the icon image expanded or reduced by the image size conversion means is superimposed on the first image.

8. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 7,

wherein the image size conversion means expands or reduces the first image, and the display control means displays the first and icon images expanded or reduced by the image size conversion means on an identical screen of the display means.

9. (Currently Amended) An image processing method, comprising:

an input step for inputting first image data and icon image data;

a determining step for determining a display position of the icon image;

and

a display control step for superimposing one of the first image and the icon image on the other and displaying the first and icon images on a monitor such that the icon image is positioned in the display position determined by the determining step;

wherein in the determining step, determining successively a plurality of display positions different from each other as display positions of the icon image, and wherein

the plurality of display positions are within a range of ~~a predetermined number of~~ 1 to 5 pixels from a predetermined position.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, further comprising:

an instruction step for instructing display of the icon image on the monitor,

wherein in the determining step, a display position of the icon image is determined according to an instruction issued in the instruction step.

Claim 11. (Cancelled).

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, further comprising:

a storage step for calculating and storing an accumulated display time in respective display positions determined in the determining step,

wherein in the determining step, a position where the accumulated display time is minimum among the respective display positions is determined as a display position of the icon image.

Claims 13-26. (Cancelled).